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9 October 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Briefing of House Foreign Affairs Committee (HFAC)
Staffers on Narcotics

1. On 9 October 1984, House Foreign Affairs Committee (HFAC) staff members Marian Chambers, Richard Pena and Thomas Smeeton were given a pre-trip briefing on Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, and Peru. The staffers are travelling to the area in October-November in connection with a narcotics study for the Committee. The following Directorate of Intelligence (DI) briefers participated:

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The briefing followed a luncheon session for the staffers which was hosted by [redacted] Chief/Liaison Division/Office of Legislative Liaison. (C)

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2. The briefing began with a political overview of Brazil. The focus was on the pre-electoral scene featuring a tight race between the government-backed candidate Paulo Maluf and opposition candidate Tancredo Neves. Brazil's mild economic recovery was also explored along with the rising expectations of the population which will have an impact on the political situation. The session then turned to Bolivia and the shaky regime of President Siles. The drug problem and rampant corruption in the Bolivian government were discussed. (C)

3. The briefing on Peru covered political developments related to national elections slated for April 1985, and President Belaunde's efforts against the Maoist revolutionary Sendero Luminoso and the growing terrorist threat it represents. Colombia's problems with terrorist violence and its four major guerrilla groups were discussed. It is expected that Colombian narcotics traffickers will continue to pose a serious problem and are likely to retaliate against the government's crackdown and US encouragement of Colombian antinarcotics efforts. (C)

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4. The two-hour briefing ended without any follow-up requirements for the DI. Staff notes were classified and sent by courier to the Committee. (C)



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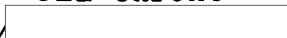
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Chief, Liaison Division/OLL

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